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## EDITORIAL NOTES.

For the first time in some years, it is not possible to print the full report of the annual meeting of the State Society, held at Sacramento April 19th to 21st, in the May issue of the JOURNAL. Some of the reports and essential documents necessary to complete the records were not available until the close of the sessions and it would have delayed publication too long had the JOURNAL been held up awaiting them. This is unfortunate, but it did not seem desirable to publish a portion of the reports and the minutes of the sessions in one number and the balance, including the report of the President, in a subsequent number. In this issue, however, will be found a running account of the meeting and some items of interest in connection with it; the full and complete report and the official minutes will appear in the issue for June. The meeting was a distinct success, though doubtless a larger representation of our members from the South would have been on hand had the place been more centrally located. The profession of Sacramento did everything possible to contribute to the pleasure and the comfort of those in attendance, and the members who were there will not soon forget the very pleasant meeting at Sacramento. The new Hotel Sacramento was comfortable to the point of luxury and the management did everything possible to make our members enjoy their stay.

As most of our readers are doubtless aware, a movement has been on foot for a number of years to secure the creation by the federal government of a Department of Public Health.

The agitation was really commenced by the American Medical Association quite a few years ago. Later, a Committee of One Hundred of the American Association for the Advancement of Science was formed to do pretty much the same work. Many conferences and joint sessions have been held and a great deal of agitation has been the result. President Taft, in his message, endorsed the movement to establish a Bureau or a Department of Public Health. Senator Owen, of his own initiative, drew up and introduced Senate Bill No 6049, which creates a Department of Public Health with a cabinet officer at its head. This bill the united energies of the Committee of One Hundred and of the American Medical Association are now urging upon the Congress. The law proposed is a most excellent one and it should have the hearty support of every public-spirited citizen. Write to your Senator and your Congressman at once and urge upon them that they be not inactive in supporting this measure. It assuredly is high time that almost as much attention should be given by the federal government to the health of its citizens as it gives to the health of its hogs. And particularly, write to Senator Perkins. He seems to have acquired a peculiar idea, in some occult way, that local boards of health are opposed to the bill. In a letter to one of our members who wrote to him on the subject, he says: "Inasmuch as nearly every Board of Health in the United States is opposed to any change in the present method of caring for the public health, it is very doubtful whether the Owen bill will pass." Will Mr. Perkins please be a little specific in regard to the boards of health in his own state? Does the State Board of Health oppose this bill? Does he know of any county or city board of health that opposes it? A little more enlightenment is very desirable, Mr. Perkins, in view of this very sweeping and preposterous statement. The proposed measure is the result of years of hard work and careful study and its various phases have been considered at many a conference of boards of health—and so far the only intimation that anyone has received that the proposed law is objectionable to boards of health, is the bare statement in Mr. Perkins' letter. It is peculiar that he should know of this opposition—and no one else have any inkling of it. Has Mr. Perkins, unbeknownst to the Committee of One Hundred, taken such an intense interest in this movement that he has, of his own volition, corresponded with all the boards of health in the country and learned what no one else has been able to discover—that they are all opposed to it? It is queer. Write to Mr. Geo. C. Perkins, United States Senate, Washington, D. C., and ask him why he thinks the boards of health oppose it. Also, stir up your own board of health and see what they have to say on the subject.